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In The Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia
ESTABLISHED 1892

Calvin H. Robinson — — Editor and Publisher

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EDITORIALS

ON THE BALL

We stopped at a Farmville service station Sunday. While the attendant was putting gas in the tank we stood at the front of the station and chanced to see some neat cards stacked in a tray. The cards turned out to be a brief message from the local chamber of commerce welcoming the visitor to Farmville, and giving directions, complete with a town map, telling where ample free parking space was to be had, and inviting you to stay a while.

Definitely, Virginia towns are at long last awakening to the value of have "visitors" and looking after interests.

Far too many cars have been just RUSHING through Virginia down Routes 1 and 11, and hastening on to Florida or New York. We need a complete campaign to have our visitors stay a while.

What more important factors are there in getting a tourist to spend a few glorious days in Virginia than supplying the ready answers to such questions as:

Where to eat (quality!)
Where to sleep, and
Where to park the car.

Once the visitor has these problems taken care of, he is ready to go sight-seeing and spend some money.

The average tourist is not at all interested in seeing a historical spot or enjoying some recreational event until he knows where he's going to spend the night, until he has settled on a quality eating facility, and until he has his car safely taken care of. And, can you blame him?

RED OAK DEDICATION

The congregation of the Red Oak Baptist Church, Oakville, and the able pastor, the Rev. G. E. Hughes, are to be congratulated upon the dedication of the new church building. Dedication services were held last Sunday. An interesting feature of the dedication was a history of the church, compiled by Mr. Curry Abbitt, Established in 1776, Red Oak Church is as old as the United States! The present building was destroyed by fire last year.

Most impressive thing about a visit to Langley Field is the comforting thought that this country is untiringly on the job to equip our national defenses with the best possible weapons. It was the privilege of your Editor to inspect the vast research laboratories at Langley last week-end and to witness a demonstration by the amazing new jet planes. No layman can comprehend the awesome exhaustiveness of our experimental activities in the field of transonic and supersonic flying, but the layman can and should glow with pride when he realizes that this great nation is on the alert and is on forefront of modern and future means of defense.

CALL'EM "VISITORS"

We are pleased to detect a movement to get away from the overworked word "tourists" and instead say "visitors" in designating the thousands of guests thronging to see Virginia. "Visitors" is a much better designation and implies the atmosphere of true Southern hospitality.

WITH OTHER EDITORS

RISING BIRTH RATE

(New York Times)

Before the war we were worried by a birth rate that had steadily declined from 1915 to 1936. By 1547 nearly all the ground lost in the preceding twenty years had been regained. If this upward trend continues the population will increase by over 45 per cent in a generation. But will it continue?

Though it is impossible to predict what the birth rate will be ten, twenty or thirty years hence, it is possible at least to ascertain why the reversal occurred. This task Dr. T. J. Woofter undertakes in the American Sociological Review. It turns out from his analysis that there are many reasons why birth rates rise and fall. Economic distress and prosperity are still generally regarded as the major influence, though it is hard to explain why the poorly paid are more prolific than the prosperious. The wider knowledge and application of birth control is another factor. What is called "planned parenthood" is spreading, which means that a large proportion of the population is adapting family size to income. Reproduction has also been favorably influenced by a decline in deaths. Because the male death rate has declined there are fewer young widows. Dr. Woofter believes that with an expected further decline in male mortality there will be a still more favorable sex ratio in the child-bearing ages and less widowhood.

All this amounts to saying that the reasons why birth rates decline are more firmly established than the reasons why birth rates rise. The alarms that were sounded ten and more years ago may have been premature, and the picture of a population that would soon remain at a plateau for a period and then decline may have been too gloomy. An entirely new field of statistical research remains to be explored. We do not yet know what the medical, physchiatric and social factors are that sustain the birth rate.

Charges and counter charges fly in state political campaign.

Marine air reserves are on big maneuvers.

Army directs that two generals be suspended.

Opera Singers Aided By Hearty Appetites, Caruso Chef Claims

NEW YORK.—The news that the Hollywood tenor Mario Lanza had reduced from 220 pounds to a syphlike 185 filled John Tirassa with horror.

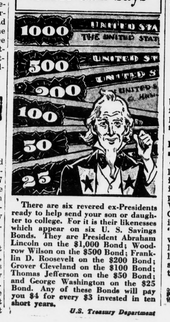
It makes him think of the days Enrico Caruso would storm into his kitchen in artistic distress because he thought he detected that one of his chins was disappearing.

"John," the great tenor would moan, "you must think of something more fattening. I must have resonance. Resonance must have bulk. Do you want me to sing only to the first rows of the orchestra? Remember there are five balconies at the Metropolitan opera house."

Caruso was a good eater, he ate what he liked and let the calories fall where they might. And Tirassa thinks it was something more than a coincidence that he was also the greatest tenor who ever lived. Similarly he wants to know where there is today a basso like Feodor Chaliapin, a man of gargantuan appetite.

"As Caruso's chef I cooked for Challapin and for many other great stars of opera like Mme. Schumann-Heink, Luisa Tetrazzini, Mary Garden, Jean De Reszke, Alma Gluck, Antonio Scotti and Nellie Melba," he recalled. "There wasn't a reducing diet among them. And how they sang! These emaciated singers of today couldn't stand on the same stage with them."

Uncle Sam Says



There are six revered ex-Presidents ready to help send your son or daughter to college. For it is their likenesses which appear on six U. S. Savings Bonds. They are President Abraham Lincoln on the $1,000 Bond; Woodrow Wilson on the $500 Bond; Franklin D. Roosevelt on the $200 Bond; Grover Cleveland on the $100 Bond; Thomas Jefferson on the $50 Bond; and George Washington on the $25 Bond. Any of these Bonds will pay you $4 for every $3 invested in ten short years.

U.S. Treasury Department

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

By Dr. Kenneth J. Foreman

SCRIPTURE: Psalms 32; 51; 86:5; 130:4.
DEVOTIONAL READING: I John 1:5—2:2.

Right With God

Lesson for July 24, 1949

"GET RIGHT with God" is an expression which has been sometimes used by people. It is not a coarse or cheap idea. It is the most important thing you can do. Think what it means to be wrong with God! That means to be out of harmony with his will, going "across the grain of reality" as the old Greeks used to say. To be wrong with God means to be a rebel against reality, to have the power of the universe working against you, and so to be headed for sure destruction. Wrong with God, you cannot win. Right with God, you cannot lose. To be right with God means to be in line with the purpose that runs through all things; it means reasons why birth rates rise. The reasons why birth rates decline are more firmly established than the simple language of the Bible, to live as a child of God.

Dr. Foreman

* * *

Mule or Man?

THERE are two ways in which man can come into line, so to speak, with God. One is by being whipped into it, and the other is by a free act of will. The poet of the 32nd Psalm begs his readers not to be like mules or colts (Ps. 32:9). These animals can be broken and controlled by their masters. But they do not understand what is going on, and if left to themselves they would never serve.

They have to be caught, harnessed and driven. But God does not want to treat human beings like that. Getting right with God is not a business of getting into harness, being beaten into walking on the right road.

That is not God's way. He pleads with us through his inspired poet: Be not as mules—be men!

* * *

Facing Up to Yourself

THE short good Bible word for being wrong with God is Sin. The very first step toward being right with God is to see yourself as you are. No one ever went to a doctor till he at least suspected he was sick. No one ever went to school of his own accord who thought he knew everything. And no one will come to God who thinks he is as good as he needs to be. When life goes hard with us, when everything about our life seems twisted and rotten, we make all sorts of excuses for ourselves, we lay the blame on our parents or our friends of the social and economic system in which we live (doubtless all these have a share in creating our troublles), but we hate to look at ourselves in the mirror of truth.

This comes first: recognizing our own wrongness, not just weakness but wrongness. When we reach the point where we can say with the Psalmist, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me," then we are on the right road.

* * *

"Hide Thy Face"

THERE are two things we never hear about in the Bible. One is that God never forgave anyone who did not repent, and the other is that he refused to forgive any one who did repent. But repentance is not merely regretting that a wrong was done; still less regretting being caught. Repentance, the kind the Bible describes (as in these Psalms for example), means a complete change of attitude, it means coming over on God's side and seeing sin the way he sees it, seeing life the way he sees it.

God's forgiveness is not of the grudging, remembering, reminding kind. But condoning and forgiving are still a world apart. Condoning means saying in effect, It is all right, it makes no difference, you can go on sinning for all I care.

Some human "forgiveness" may be like that, but not God's. His forgiveness is based on real repentance, and the aim of it is to save the sinner from his sin.

* * *

Plenteous in Mercy

THE Psalmists saw clearly what kind of God we have. He is not like the holder of a mortgage waiting till the first time some payment is deferred gives him a chance to pounce down and evict his tenant. We are not criminals against whom God is a prosecuting attorney, trying to pile up evidence against us. "If thou shouldest mark iniquities, who shall stand?" We are children, lost and wandering children, rebellious and disobedient children, but still children; and God holds open the door of mercy.

(Copyright by the International Council of Religious Education on behalf of 40 Protestant denominations. Released by WNU Features)

Old Playground Of Movieland Great Now Just Dateline

PALM SPRINGS, CALIF.—This world-famous playground of the movie stars is becoming—like Hollywood—just a dateline.

Palm Springs is going commercial and celebrities are fleeing out into the desert, far beyond tourists' eyes.

The three newest luxury resorts ($25 to $35 a day) are all more than five miles from town.

There was a time when movie people were as thick on the streets as the gnats which are Palm Springs' plague. That was when businessmen here regarded tourists as a low form of animal life.

In those days, during the war and for a while thereafter, hotels refused overnight guests. There were only a handful of places where the casual tourist could get a meal. Hotel and club restaurants were for guests or members only.

It's different now, especially since the recent economy wave in Hollywood. The tourist is welcomed. Collectively, he's got more dollars than the movie crowd.

But if he thinks he's going to get a glimpse of a movie star along with it, he's likely to be disappointed. Those who have their own places here, such as Bob Hope, Eddie Cantor or Frank Sinatra generally stick close to home base.

American 'Jaycees' Lavish Gifts on Brussels Mayor

BRUSSELS.—Americans bearing gifts crowded into the ancient town hall and presented Burgomaster Joseph Van de Muelebroeck with offerings ranging from a sack of oranges to a plastic tablecloth.

In a happy-go-lucky ceremony, members of the United States delegation to the fourth world congress of the International Junior Chamber of Commerce named the burgomaster "official salesman of democracy." Delegates from 14 nations were present.

Joseph H. Saunders of Alexandria, Va., vice-president of the American delegation, gave Van de Muelebroeck a leather bound volume of "Documents of Freedom" and a bound copy of George Washington's will, the latter on behalf of the city of Alexandria.

West Virginia's Arthur Belton produced pamphlets illustrating his state's industrial accomplishments and a special passport to permit the burgomaster to "tour our little Switzerland of America."

Minnesota's Coope Hamon of Minneapolis offered a canvas and leather gun case to remind the burgomaster that Hamon's home state is a "hunter's paradise."

With all his gifts stacked up beside him the mayor thanked the Americans for their generosity and good wishes and then gestured toward a table laden with wine bottles.

"The drinks," he said in good Americanese, "are on the house."

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Evergreen

Evergreen, July 19.- Rev. A. L. Simpson preached a fine sermon at the Methodist Church here Sunday night.

Miss Hazel Paulette spent Sunday with Miss Phyllis LeGrand.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie McGlothlin and son, of Lynchburg visited Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Warriner last Saturday. Also Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Smith and son, Freddie, of Alexandria spent several days last week in this same home.

Miss Juanita Harris, of Oakville who has been spending some time with her aunt, Mrs. Howard Glover, and family, has returned home.

Rev. and Mrs. G. A. Chocklette are visiting their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Massie, of Newport News.

Miss Linda Warriner, of Washington spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Warriner.

Lawrence Stewart has returned to his work in Covington, after a few days visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Stewart.

Mrs. Annie Warriner is able to be out, after a recent illness.

Mrs. Green Garrett called to see Mrs. G. W. Glover Monday P. M.

Paul Ferguson and D. T. Ferguson, of Lynchburg spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Howard Glover and family.

Mrs. L. L. Stewart went to see the doctor last Sunday. She also visited her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Almond, of Appomattox, while there.

Phone 30 with Personals.

Spout Spring

Spout Spring, July 19.- Miss Janice Brown, of Lynchburg was the supper guest Thursday night of Mrs. A. C. Almond and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd McFadden are the proud parents of a son, Kenneth Edward, born July 14, at the Virginia Baptist Hospital. Congratulations.

The Hazel Moon Y. W. A., of Spout Spring Baptist Church, will meet Thursday night, with Miss Nell Williamson.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Layne and daughter were guests Sunday afternoon in the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Wooldridge, of Concord Depot.

Prayer meeting each Wednesday night at 8:00 o'clock at the Spout Spring Baptist Church. Everyone is cordially invited to attend these meetings.

Tourists report that costs of vacation are leveling off.

Appomattox has won two straight games in Virginia semi-pro baseball tournament at Charlottesville.

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So Our Children May Be Rightly Equipped For Successful and Happy Lives

Senator Battle's Plan

"Our children are our most precious — our most valuable — possessions, in the family and in the State and Nation. For them, through our schools and otherwise, Virginia must do everything possible, that they may be well equipped for successful and happy lives. As Governor, I would do everything that can be done to that end."
—JOHN S. BATTLE

Senator John S. Battle, who is thoroughly familiar with the State's finances through his long service as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance, declares--

1. There should be increased salaries for school teachers, in order that well-qualified men and women may be employed in the face of high salaries offered in other lines . . . These increases should be in accordance with the recommendations of the Virginia Education Association.

2. Our school buildings being inadequate (through the unavoidable neglect during the depression and the war), grants for construction should be made from the State's present surplus --- a first grant of $30,000,000 in the calendar year 1950.

3. Loans of $44,000,000 should be made to counties and cities (from the investments of the Literary Fund and the State Retirement Fund) to meet the further needs for school construction. These will be available in the year 1950.

SENATOR JOHN S. BATTLE

Note that these purposes can be served Without any new Taxes

For Local Control of Schools

Senator Battle has said: "The schools should be kept close to the people. Local control is essential and local participation in school activities should be encouraged"

VOTE FOR BATTLE

For Better Schools for our Children

Primary August 2nd

(Paid Political Adv.)